



NEWSLETTER

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF THE MILITARY



CANADIAN VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL WALL TO BE ON DISPLAY AT REDLIN ART CENTER

The Canadian Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall will be making its first stop in South Dakota in November. This inaugural visit will take place over Veterans Day weekend at the Redlin Art Center in Watertown.

The Canadian Vietnam Veterans Memorial, also called the "North Wall", pays tribute to the 133 Canadians confirmed killed in the Vietnam War while serving with the U.S. Armed Forces. These names include seven "Missing in Action".

The purpose of the "North Wall" Memorial is to:

- Honor the Canadians who followed their conscience and fought for freedom in the Vietnam War.
- Educate and raise public awareness of Canadians participation in the Vietnam War.
- Stimulate the spirit of patriotism in Canada.

The Canadian Vietnam Veterans Memorial will be on display inside the Redlin Art Center from Friday, November 8, 2019 through Monday, November 11, 2019. Admission to the Redlin Art Center to view the Memorial Wall is free.



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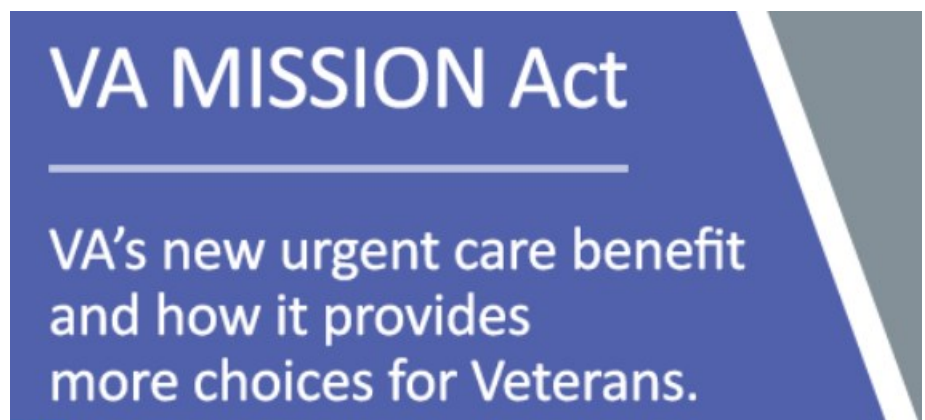
VA IMPROVES INFORMATION SHARING WITH COMMUNITY CARE PROVIDERS

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will implement new procedures by January 2020, for sharing medical information for Veterans accessing [health care in the community](#).

The Department is changing its procedures for electronic health information sharing in accordance with Section 132 of the VA Maintaining Internal Systems and Strengthening Integrated Outside Networks Act of 2018 ([MISSION Act](#)).

“The MISSION Act gives veterans greater access to care, whether at VA facilities or in the community,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. “We are providing seamless access to care, improving efficiency and helping to ensure veterans get the care they need, where and when they need it.”

The change moves the VA from an ‘opt-in’ to an ‘opt-out’ model of electronic health information sharing. Veterans will no longer be required to provide signed, written authorization for the VA to release electronic health information to community providers for the purposes of receiving medical treatment.



The VA shares health information with community providers using a secure and safe electronic system called the Veterans Health Information Exchange. This electronic exchange of information improves patient safety — particularly during emergency situations — and allows for improved care coordination for veterans receiving care in the community.

Veterans who do not want their health information shared electronically can opt out by submitting [VA Form 10-10164](#) (opt out of sharing) to the Release of Information Office at the nearest VA medical center now or at any time going forward. Veterans who previously opted out on VA Form 10-0484 prior to Sept. 30, do not need to submit new forms. However, veterans who restricted what information the VA shared by submitting [VA Form 10-0525](#) (restriction request) will need to opt out entirely by submitting Form 10-10164.

The VA is committed to protecting veteran privacy. Only community health care providers and organizations that have partnership agreements with the VA and are part of the VA's approved, trusted network may receive VA health information.

For information about VA's health information exchange visit www.va.gov/vler.

VA, WHITE HOUSE “PREVENTS” TASK FORCE HOLDS INNOVATION SUMMIT

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the White House Domestic Policy Council hosted an innovation summit Sept. 23 as part of The President’s Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End the National Tragedy of Suicide (PREVENTS) task force.

The summit brought together more than 100 leading researchers, clinicians, innovators and decision makers to discuss research on public health solutions to end veteran suicide. The interagency group is charged with implementing a roadmap for veteran suicide prevention at the national and community levels by March 2020.

“Collaboration and research are integral parts of the VA’s public health approach to suicide prevention,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. “The work of the PREVENTS task force, like this summit, move us closer to solving the problems that lead to suicide and ultimately finding an end to veteran suicide.”

Held during Suicide Prevention Month, the summit provided a unique opportunity for public and private sector collaboration — to research and explore innovative ways to reach veterans in crisis — and provide them with support in their communities. A request for information that went out in August generated a wealth of ideas and elicited new insights for developing a national research strategy to end veteran suicide. Those results will be compiled into action items as part of President Donald Trump’s March 5, Executive Order establishing the PREVENTS task force in June.



Suicide is a complex national public health issue that affects communities nationwide, with more than 45,000 Americans — including more than 6,000 veterans — dying by suicide every year. The summit strengthened public-private partnerships that will identify gaps in the current suicide research environment and implement ideas to fill them.

Veterans who are in crisis or having thoughts of suicide, and those who know a veteran in crisis, can call the Veterans Crisis Line for confidential support available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Call 800-273-8255 and Press 1, text to 838255 or chat online at VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat.

Reporters covering this issue can download VA’s [Safe Messaging Best Practices fact sheet](#) or visit www.ReportingOnSuicide.org for important guidance on how to communicate about suicide.

Suicide is preventable, and we all have a role to play.

VA PROVIDES VETERANS FLEEING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WITH HOUSING AND SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) reminds Veterans nationwide that VA's [Supportive Services for Veteran Families \(SSVF\)](#) and [Grant and Per Diem \(GPD\)](#) provide housing and other services for veterans experiencing domestic violence and intimate partner violence.

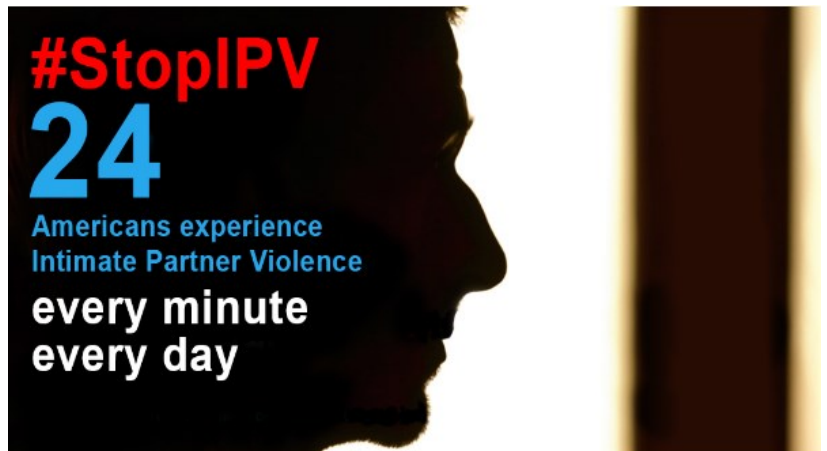
Additionally, in observance of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the VA's [Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program](#) will gather with internal and external national partners this October to help promote the department's mission to foster healthy relationships and safety.

"The VA recognizes the impact domestic violence has on veterans and their families and is committed to raising awareness about this serious problem," said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. "We want to remind veterans in these tough situations they are not alone, and that the VA is here to help them access safe, stable housing and supportive services."

Veterans losing their housing because they are fleeing domestic violence are eligible for SSVF rapid rehousing, which is an intervention designed to help homeless veterans and their families quickly access permanent housing. The GPD program provides housing and supportive services to help homeless veterans achieve residential stability, increase their skill levels and incomes and achieve greater self-determination.

In 2017, [Public Law 114-315](#) expanded eligibility for participation in the SSVF and GPD programs by broadening the definition of homeless to include any individual or family fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking — or other situations making it dangerous to remain in the home — which include situations that jeopardize the health and safety of children. Eligible veterans must have no other residence and lack both the resources and support networks to obtain other permanent housing.

Click [SSVF](#) or [GPD](#) to learn more about VA's domestic violence assistance programs.



VETERANS FREE DENTAL CARE

Veterans are invited to sign up for free dental care on Aspen Dental's Mouthmobile.

For one day, Aspen Dental will provide free dental care to veterans. Care includes (but is not limited to) cleanings, fillings, and extractions.

Veterans should call to make an appointment as Aspen Dental cannot guarantee care for walk-ins. Make an appointment by calling Dick Ambrosius at 605.271.7256.

The Mouthmobile will be available on Tuesday, October 15, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm (CT) in Downtown Sioux Falls (exact location TBA).



VA SECRETARY VISITS SD

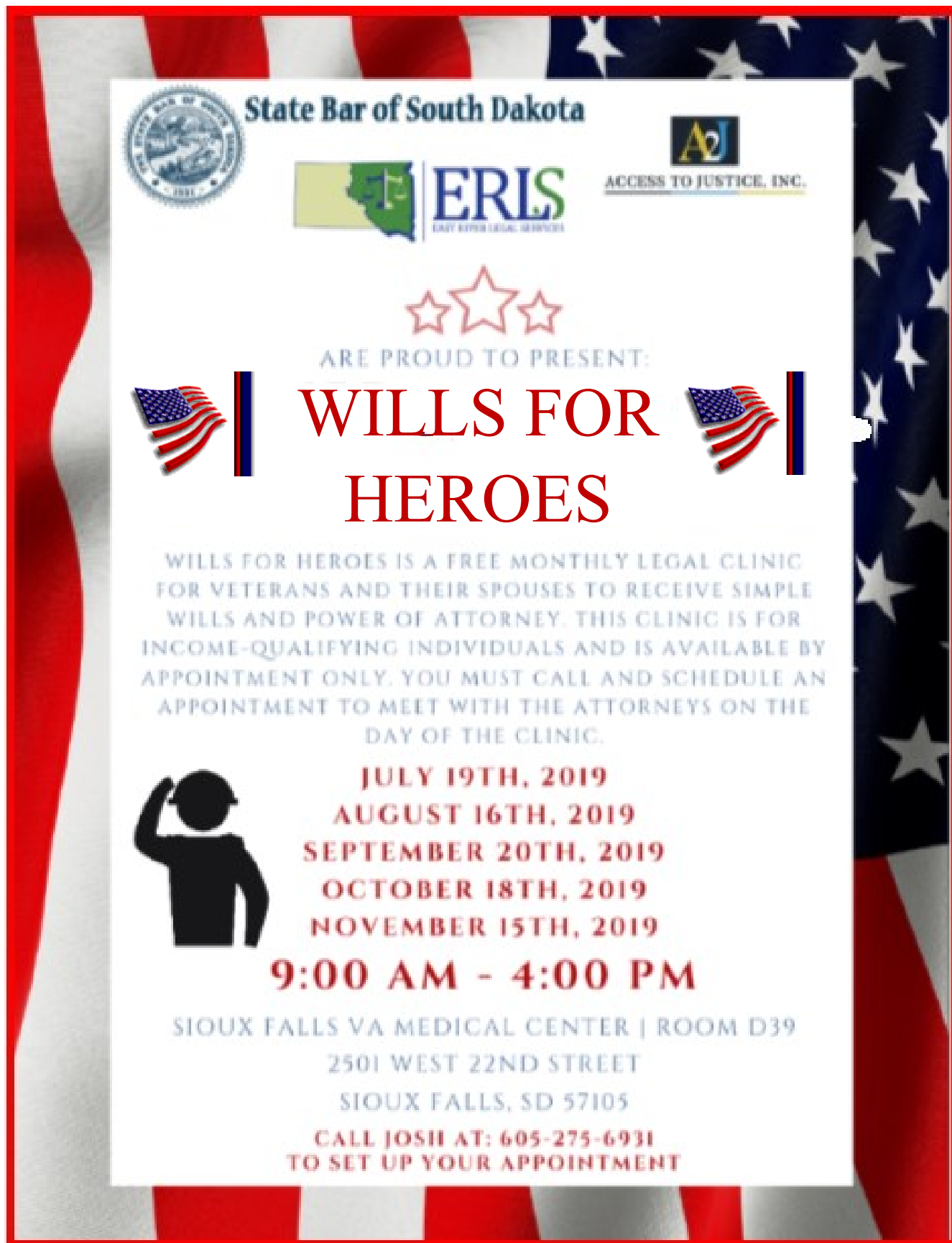
United States Veteran Affairs Secretary Robert Wilkie visited the VABHHC yesterday as part of a tour of VA facilities in four states. During a sit down meeting with Governor Noem, South Dakota Congressional delegation and community leaders, Wilkie discussed access to services, transportation, private providers, and suicide data. At the conclusion of the meeting, Wilkie agreed to make another trip to South Dakota to visit the VA facilities in Hot Springs.


Wilkie also did a question and answer session with the West River American Indian Veterans Advisory Council. The meeting was held at The Retired Enlisted Association post in east Rapid City.

Present at the meeting were tribal veterans service officers from Standing Rock, Oglala, Rosebud, and Cheyenne River Sioux Tribes, representatives from the states congressional offices, subject matter experts from the VA Black Hills and SDDVA Field Service Officer Will Huffmon.


Sec. Wilkie started off the session with remarks regarding his experience with Native American culture via his upbringing in Oklahoma and current areas of focus as the Secretary to include tele-health and addressing veteran suicide. Once the floor was open to questions, the topics discussed included limited access to network coverage in rural and tribal areas in respect to tele-health, the ongoing need for "boots on the ground" mental health care services, and the need to clarify the current memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the VA and Indian Health Services (IHS).









State Bar of South Dakota




ERLS
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ARE PROUD TO PRESENT:



WILLS FOR HEROES



WILLS FOR HEROES IS A FREE MONTHLY LEGAL CLINIC FOR VETERANS AND THEIR SPOUSES TO RECEIVE SIMPLE WILLS AND POWER OF ATTORNEY. THIS CLINIC IS FOR INCOME-QUALIFYING INDIVIDUALS AND IS AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. YOU MUST CALL AND SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT TO MEET WITH THE ATTORNEYS ON THE DAY OF THE CLINIC.

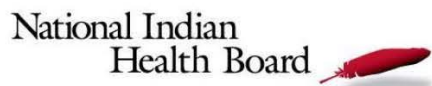


JULY 19TH, 2019
AUGUST 16TH, 2019
SEPTEMBER 20TH, 2019
OCTOBER 18TH, 2019
NOVEMBER 15TH, 2019

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

SIoux FALLS VA MEDICAL CENTER | ROOM D39
2501 WEST 22ND STREET
SIoux FALLS, SD 57105

CALL JOSH AT: 605-275-6931
TO SET UP YOUR APPOINTMENT



Please join the National Indian Health Board and the Alzheimer's Association for a webinar:

Facing Alzheimer's Through Community Strengths

**Wednesday, October 16, 2019
3:00pm – 4:00pm ET**

The rise in Alzheimer's and other dementias is a challenge for all communities, including those in Indian Country. The webinar will cover what is Alzheimer's and other dementias, how dementia relates to diabetes and heart disease, and why dementia affects multiple generations. While responding to this growing health problem may seem daunting, there are ways to get started using your communities' existing strengths and partners.

Speakers:

Blythe Winchester, MD, MPH, CMD, (*enrolled member Eastern Band Cherokee Indians*), Certified Medical Director, Tsali Care Center; Geriatrician, Cherokee Indian Hospital; and Chief Clinical Consultant, Geriatrics and Palliative Care, Indian Health Service

Lisa McGuire, PhD, Lead, Alzheimer's Disease and Healthy Aging Program (AD+HAP) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Carolyn Angus-Hornbuckle, JD, (*Mohawk Tribe*), Chief Operating Officer, National Indian Health Board

Molly French, Director of Public Health, Alzheimer's Association

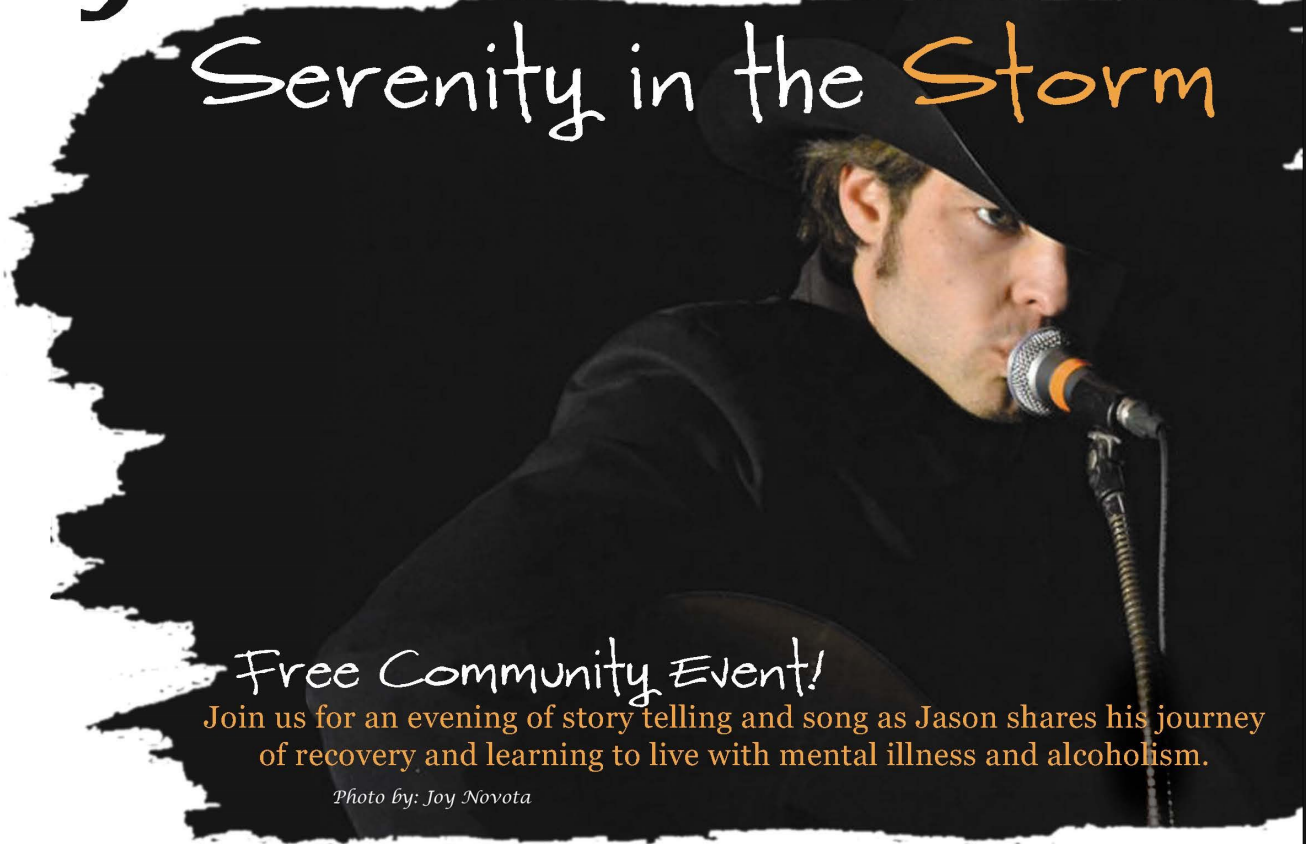
Register [HERE](https://bit.ly/2IYFKUK), or copy and paste this address into your browser <https://bit.ly/2IYFKUK>

Please direct questions about webinar registrations to Molly French at mfrench@alz.org or call 202-638-8674. For all other inquiries, contact Karrie Joseph, kjoseph@nihb.org

NATIONAL DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH | OCTOBER 2019

JASON DESHAW

Serenity in the Storm



Free Community Event!

Join us for an evening of story telling and song as Jason shares his journey of recovery and learning to live with mental illness and alcoholism.

Photo by: Joy Novota

Jason DeShaw is a national award-winning mental health speaker and country singer from Montana. For over a decade he has been a professional country singer performing across North America and Europe. In 2010 doctors diagnosed him as having bipolar disorder and alcoholism. As he began to recover, DeShaw became an advocate for mental health by combining his story and songs into a presentation entitled Serenity in the Storm. Jason DeShaw's story has touched countless hearts, and he is the recipient of the 2014 Champions Award from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).

Thursday, October 10
6:30 p.m.

Drifters Bar and Grille
Ft. Pierre | 325 Hustan Ave

Thanks to our Sponsors



Seating available for the first 250 people.

Facilities are accessible to people with mobility impairments. If additional accommodations are needed, please contact Laura Stoltenburg at (605) 626-2398. 10 days notice is requested to assure service availability.

Oct 7—Military Honors Ceremony for Unaccompanied Veterans—Black Hills National Cemetery (20901 Pleasant Valley Drive—Sturgis—9:00 am (MT)
Oct 10—Take Back the Night—Multicultural Center—Sioux Falls (515 N. Main Avenue) 5:30 pm—7:00 pm (CT)
Oct 12—Mission VI Midwest Honor Flight Welcome Home Ceremony—Sioux Falls Convention Center—9:00 pm (CT)
Oct 14—State Offices Closed
Oct 17—Trail Ridge Health and Wellness Fair—12:00—4:00 pm (CT)
Oct 18—Expo for Her—Sioux Falls Arena—2:00—9:00 pm (CT)
Oct 18—ERLS Wills for Heroes—Sioux Falls VA Medical Center—Room D39 (2501 W. 22nd Street)—9:00 am—4:00 pm (CT)
Oct 23—SD Veterans Council Meeting—PVA Headquarters (209 N. Garfield Avenue)—Sioux Falls—10:00 am (CT)
Nov 2—Second Annual Hangar Dance (Midwest Honor Flight Benefit)—Mid America Museum of Aviation—Sioux City, IA—7:00 pm (CT)
Nov 2—BHSU Hero Appreciation Game—Lyle Hare Stadium—Spearfish—1:00 pm (MT)
Nov 5—Veteran Stand Down and Resource Fair—Rapid City Rushmore Plaza Civic Center—10:00 am—2:00 pm (MT)
Nov 11—State Offices Closed
Nov 15—ERLS Wills for Heroes—Sioux Falls VA Medical Center—Room D39 (2501 W. 22nd Street)—9:00 am—4:00 pm (CT)
Dec 3—Governor Noem's Budget Address
Dec 9—Wreaths Across America Wreath Laying Ceremony—Flaming Fountain Veterans Memorial at Capitol Lake in Pierre—11:00 am (CT)

2020

Jan 14—State of the State Address
Jan 15—SD Veterans Council Legislative Reception
Feb 21-23—American Legion Mid Winter Conference—Arrowwood Resort and Conference Center—Oacoma
Mar 27-29—SD Vietnam and Era Veterans Reunion—Dakota Sioux Casino—Watertown
May 15-17—DAV State Convention—Brookings
Jun 18-21—American legion State Convention—Huron



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